



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Yoshio Onuki et al.                      **Examiner:** Michael G. Mendoza  
**Serial No:** 10/616,517                                      **Art Unit:** 3731  
**Filed:** July 10, 2003                                      **Docket:** 15679  
**For:** ENDOSCOPIC SUTURE                              **Dated:** April 18, 2005  
   APPARATUS  
  
**Conf. No.:** 1188

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

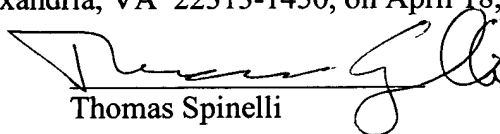
In response to the Official Action dated October 26, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 18, 2005.

Dated: April 18, 2005

  
Thomas Spinelli